

## Additional Information about Contaminants

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that the water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the **Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline** (1-800-426-4791).

**Contaminant Risk:** Some people are more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorder, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infection. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by cryptosporidium and other microbial contaminants are available from the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline.

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally occurring minerals and in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity.

### Questions Regarding...

**Yelm's Drinking Water** — Call Public Works at (360) 458-8406. Located at 901 Rhoton Rd SE, Yelm. Your Certified Waterworks Operators are: John Ivey, Tim Rarick, and Edward Smith.

**Water Utility Billing** — Call City Hall Staff at (360) 458-3244. Located at 105 Yelm Ave West, Yelm

**About Drinking Water Safety** — Call the EPA Safe Drinking Water Hotline at 1-800-426-4791 or visit their homepage at: <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>

**WA State Dept. of Health** — (360) 236-3030  
<http://www.doh.wa.gov/ehp/dw>

## Where does Yelm's Water Go?

In 2014, the City's wells pumped 209 million gallons (MG) from the ground. Where did the water go after leaving the wells?

97.6%	Use by customers with water meters <i>(all customer connections are metered)</i>	204 MG
0.2%	Authorized unmetered consumption <i>(water line flushing and fire department use)</i>	0.5 MG
2.2%	Distribution System Leakage (DSL) <i>(water that is lost due to leaks or unauthorized uses; the State requires Yelm to achieve a DSL of 10% or less)</i>	4.5 MG

The City of Yelm established **Water Use Efficiency goals in June of 2008**. The City's progress towards achieving these goals in 2014 is as follows:

**Goal #1: Increase reclaimed water usage.** The City provides reclaimed water to large irrigation customers and other selected users. The City continues to work with customers to make use of this valuable resource.

**Goal #2: Limit Distribution System Leakage to 6%.** The City surpassed this goal in 2014 with a DSL percentage of 2.2%. The City's DSL reduction program will be ongoing to continue to reduce our loss and comply with DOH regulations.

**Goal #3: Reduce residential consumption to 200 gallons per day.** Yelm has surpassed this goal. In 2014, the average single family home in Yelm used 166 gallons of water per day.

The City of Yelm operates and maintains your local storage and distribution system.

*Fluoride is not added to our drinking water.*



**FREE Leak Detector Tablets**

Available only to Yelm Water customers. Visit Yelm City Hall, 105 Yelm Ave W., for your free package while supplies last.



# City of Yelm

## "The Water We Drink" 2014 Public Water Quality Report



**Welcome** to the **Seventeenth** edition of the Annual City of Yelm Consumer Confidence Report (CCR) for Water System 99350J.

In accordance with the Federal Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) requirements, this report is being provided to our customers in an effort to keep you informed and provide information concerning the quality of drinking water that you receive from the City of Yelm Water Department.

Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. It is important to us that you understand the efforts made to continually improve the water delivery process and protect our water resources.

City of Yelm Web Page  
<http://www.ci.yelm.wa.us>

## Where Does Yelm's Drinking Water Come From?

The City of Yelm has two municipal groundwater wells. Well 1A was drilled to 67 feet & Well 2 is drilled to 61 feet. They are located off 2nd Street.

**We continuously monitor for various constituents in the water supply to meet all regulatory requirements.** In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, the Department of Health and Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) prescribe regulations that limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems.

**Copper:** Copper does not pose a threat to the quality of our water supply. It is an essential nutrient, but some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over a relatively short amount of time could experience gastrointestinal distress. Some people who drink water containing copper in excess of the action level over many years could suffer liver or kidney damage. People with Wilson's disease should consult their personal doctor. Sources from copper can come from corrosion of household plumbing systems and erosion of natural deposits, such as leaching from wood preservatives. The last required test was in 2014 and while most test locations met state & federal requirements, some did not. The City is working with the Department of Health to rectify this issue. *The next testing period is scheduled for September 2015.*

**Lead:** If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. The City of Yelm is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. The last required test was in 2014 and met state & federal requirements. *The next testing period is scheduled for September 2015.*

If you are concerned about copper or lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on copper & lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline 1-800-426-4791 or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater>.

**Micro-Biological / Bacteriological Contaminants:** 10 samples per month are collected at coliform monitoring points in the water system. In addition, the two active wells are monitored prior to entering the distribution system. All test results were negative for these contaminants.

**Contaminants that may be present in source water include:**

**Microbial**  
Such as viruses and bacterial may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations and wildlife.

**Inorganic**  
Contaminants  
Such as salts and metals, which can be naturally occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharge, oil and gas production, mining or farming.

**Pesticides and Herbicides**  
"SOC"  
These come from a variety of sources such as agriculture and residential uses.

**Radioactive Contaminants**  
These are naturally occurring.  
These include synthetic and

**Organic Chemical**  
"VOC"  
Contaminants  
which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.

### Terms & Abbreviations Used

**Maximum Contaminant Level's or MCL:** The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal or MCLG:** The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level or MRDL:** The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants (ex. Chlorine, chloramines, chlorine dioxide).

**Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG):** The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

**Units of Measure:**  
Parts per million (ppm),  
Micrograms per Liter (ug/L)

**Parts per Billion (ppb),**  
Pico-curries per Liter (pCi/L).

The water quality information presented in the tables is from the most recent round of testing done in accordance with the regulations. All data shown were collected during the last calendar year unless otherwise noted in the tables.

## 2014 Water Quality Data

**Nitrate Test Results:** (Tested Annually) Source of contaminant is runoff from fertilizer use.

Date Tested	Violation	Location	Level Detected	MCL (maximum)
6/3/2014	No	Well 2	1.3	10 mg/L
6/3/2014	No	Well 1A	1.6	10 mg/L

Currently, the City of Yelm uses chlorine and sodium hydroxide (caustic soda) as a means for disinfection and pH adjustment.

**Chlorine Residual:** Measure of disinfectant added to the water. Samples taken from end of the water system.

Date Tested	Violation	Level Detected	MRDLG/MRDL (Maximum Residual Disinfectant Goal/Level)	MCL (Maximum)
2014	No	.6	4.0 ppm	4.0 ppm
Avg				

**Volatile Organic Contaminants:** Haloacetic Acids (HAA) & Total Trihalomethanes (THM) only. This contaminant is a by-product of drinking water that is continuously chlorinated. Last tested on 8/31/11. Did not exceed MCL. (80ug/L). Next test required in 2015.

**Volatile Organic Contaminants (VOC):** Testing was not required in 2014.

**Organic Full Contaminants (IOC):** Testing was not required in 2014.

**Synthetic Organic Contaminants (SOC):** Testing was not required in 2014.

**Radionuclide (Radium 228):** Testing was not required in 2014.

Testing was not required in 2014.